

## ROYAL HOTEL COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY FLAMES

Old Landmark Goes Up in Smoke Entail-  
ing Loss of \$10,000, Partly  
Insured

### FIRE DEPARTMENT CONFINES FLAMES

Many Losses Sustained by Guests Who  
Were Unable to Reach Rooms in Face  
of Rapid Spread of Fire

For the seventh time in the admin-  
istration of the present fire chief, the  
department was called out to exting-  
uish flames in the old Royal hotel,  
leased and occupied by Mrs. J. T. Gos-  
sett, at the corner of Fourth and Cho-  
ctaw avenue, about 8:30 Saturday night.  
The frame structure, containing  
nineteen sleeping rooms besides par-  
lor, kitchen and dining room, was con-  
structed in a manner that made its  
prompt destruction imminent and only  
by prompt and efficient work on the  
part of Chief Gattis and his men were  
adjoining properties saved. At one  
time it looked as if the fire boys had  
the main conflagration stayed while  
there was yet a chance to save a large  
portion of the old building. As it was  
the kitchen, dining room, parlor and  
several rooms on the first floor showed  
little effects of the fire except from  
water.

The proprietor and guests were ig-  
norant of the fact that the place was  
afire until considerable headway had  
been gained. Repeated shots coming  
from the sheriff's office and shouts of  
warning attracted the attention of the  
guests on the front veranda, who  
stepped around the corner of the build-  
ing to see that the fire was gaining  
rapid headway. Mrs. Gossett, the pro-  
prietor, was out driving her new Over-  
land car and did not return home until  
the hotel had been practically reduced  
to ruins. Her first thought was of her  
guests and their belongings and it was  
some time afterwards before she realized  
what the fire had meant to her. Her  
loss is estimated at \$3,000, on which  
there was but \$1,000 insurance. The  
building, which was the oldest hotel  
in Chickasha, was the property of  
Emmett Marshall of Gainesville, Tex.,  
and was today valued at about \$5,000.  
On this there was an insurance of  
\$3,000.

The fire had gained considerable  
headway before the fire department  
was notified and reached the spot.  
It then seemed that it was beyond  
control but quick work on the part of  
the fire department at once  
brought it to a point which promised  
a quick halt but the dry timbers and  
the unplastered walls throughout the  
building proved an easy prey to the  
flames which were drawn to all parts  
of the house by the draft and caused  
the fire to break out in new places.  
Adjoining properties were in immedi-  
ate danger of ignition.

Aside from Mrs. Gossett several  
boarders were quite heavy losers.  
Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Wren sustained  
losses to the amount of \$150 on wear-  
ing apparel and bed clothing. L. E.  
Schow lost \$190 in furniture with minor  
losses. Mrs. Carpenter, who had  
recently arrived to take charge of the  
millinery department of the Burr-Bur-  
gess store, lost heavily in wearing ap-  
parel and a diamond brooch. Mr.  
Oakes, connected with the electric  
light company, lost everything he had  
except the clothes which he wore. Mr.  
and Mrs. George Talbert lost quite  
heavily. Mr. Munson of the Kress  
store was a heavy loser, losing all his  
personal possessions and saving nothing  
but the clothes which he wore at the  
time of the fire. Included in his  
losses was \$30 in cash and a \$65 man-  
dolin. Others sustained losses.

Personal Effects Saved.  
Notwithstanding the rapidity with  
which the flames spread in the interior  
of the building, the men who were pre-  
sent did excellent salvage work and  
many trunks, furnishings, two pianos,  
and other articles of value were re-  
scued, sometimes at the imminent peril  
of those who saved them. Through  
the smoke the relief party went  
through the rooms of absent guests  
picking up everything that was loose  
in those portions of the house to which  
access was still possible. In this man-  
ner the guests were saved losses  
amounting to many hundreds of dol-  
lars.

But others were heavy losers, some

losing all their belongings. Among  
the heaviest losers were Mr. and Mrs.  
Harris, who, although saving most of  
the contents of their rooms on the first  
floor, were unable to reach a trunk in  
the attic which was filled with cloth-  
ing, cut glass, china and silverware.  
The silverware was saved but the re-  
maining contents of the trunk to the  
value of about \$500 were ruined.

One guest, whose room was gutted,  
believed that he had lost notes to the  
value of \$100 but immediately after the  
fire ascended to the second story and  
found the papers intact in a charred  
valise.

B. L. Frazer, expert man for the Stu-  
denbecker, who occupied the room ad-  
joining that in which the fire was be-  
lieved to have started, was taking a  
nap when awakened by suffocation  
from smoke. He had no time to save  
anything. His avenue of escape being  
cut off he descended from the window  
by means of sheets.

Other guests, seeing their rooms con-  
sumed and flames issuing from the  
windows, were happily surprised later  
to find that their belongings had been  
rescued during their absence or that  
the tightly packed contents of burned  
trunks or suit cases were intact or  
practically so.

That the fire broke out so early in  
the evening was considered to be ex-  
tremely fortunate, as several lives  
might have perished had it happened  
after the guests had retired. It was  
feared for a while that an invalid  
lady had not been able to escape from  
her room on the second floor, but this  
proved to be without foundation.

Furniture, clothing, wearing apparel,  
trunks, valises and other articles which  
were removed from the building are  
now stored at the old Globe store, cor-  
ner of Chickasha avenue and Fourth  
street, where they may be had by the  
owners. Many articles were pilfered  
just before and succeeding the fire,  
one being a purse containing \$5 which  
belonged to the chambermaid of the  
hotel.

#### Cause Unknown.

Due to the fact that the fire had  
made considerable headway before the  
flames were discovered it is impossible  
to determine its cause or place of ori-  
gin. The consensus of opinion is that  
it originated in one of the rooms up-  
stairs. Mr. Gossett was in the kitchen  
a half hour before the building burned  
and stated that there was nothing left  
in there that would have been respon-  
sible for the conflagration. The fact  
that the contents of the kitchen and  
the dining room adjoining were prac-  
tically free from damage would lead  
to the conviction that this was not the  
origin. A carelessly thrown match is  
believed to have started it.

#### How Fire Was Fought.

"The fire had such a headway be-  
fore the department arrived that the  
place was practically doomed," said  
Chief Gattis today.  
"We laid four reels of hose and tried  
to confine it to the building that was  
burning. There was a good water  
pressure."

#### On Fire Seven Times.

"During my nine years' service on  
the fire department this is the seventh  
time which we have responded to  
alarms from this source. Owing to  
the condition in which the building  
now is it would be better for the City  
of Chickasha if it were entirely de-  
molished. The heaviest fire was in  
the north end. It looks as if the fire  
originated in the store room adjoining  
the kitchen, eating its way up into the  
second story where the draft drew it  
through the attic. In the attic about  
two dozen mattresses were stored,  
which caused the fire to gain great  
headway and make it very difficult to  
fight, on account of the fire depart-  
ment not having sufficient ladders to  
handle that kind of fire. To give good  
service on this sized buildings the fire  
department has need of a sixty-five  
foot aerial ladder truck. This is some-  
thing that Chickasha needs now and  
should get as quickly as possible.

Everything that the city has in the  
fire equipment line was in service and  
the fire was being played on from all  
sides simultaneously, at the same time  
guarding adjoining properties. The  
building on the west was not over  
twenty feet from the fire.

"At one time where there was a com-  
plaint of lack of water pressure sev-  
eral trunks had fallen on a reel of hose  
and cut down the flow."

#### Water Pressure.

The fire department reported that a  
sufficient pressure was available dur-  
ing the fire. Inquiry at the water of-  
fice.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## RUSSIANS IN THE FRENCH TRENCHES



Some of the Russians now fighting on the western front are here seen in  
French trench, wearing French helmets. General Lovitsky, their commander  
is leading an inspection party through the trench.

## PROBING HIGH PRICE OF WHEAT

Government Investigates Cause of Rise  
to See Whether Resulting From  
Natural Causes

By United Press.  
Chicago, August 14.—The federal in-  
vestigation into the recent rise of  
wheat prices is under way in earnest  
here. Assistant United States Dis-  
trict Attorney Fleming today said the  
big brokers are being questioned re-  
garding the latest jump in the market.  
The government wants to know whether  
the twenty cent rise in wheat in the  
past two weeks is due entirely to  
natural causes or was planned in ad-  
vance by traders. In the meantime  
wheat began to decline today.

### GRANDMA ANDERSON DIES

Mrs. Louise J. Anderson, better  
known as Grandma Anderson, died yester-  
day evening after a short illness.  
She was 84 years of age. Funeral ser-  
vices were conducted at the Methodist  
church at three o'clock this afternoon  
and the remains will be shipped to  
Eldo this evening for burial.

The deceased is survived by a  
daughter, Mrs. Elmer Stone, of Union  
Hill, and two sons, H. H. Anderson of  
Gotebo, who has been here for several  
days, and a son in South Dakota.

## BIG TRAFFIC FROM HERE TO LINDSAY

Rock Island Reports Land Office Business  
With that Town Due to Broom Corn  
and Watermelons

A statement of passengers and  
freight handled on the Lindsay branch  
of the Rock Island during the first  
thirteen days of August shows a splen-  
did business, due largely to the ex-  
cellent broom corn harvest now in  
progress, and also to the wealth of  
watermelons being picked and shipped.

The largest number of passengers  
between Chickasha and Lindsay on  
any one day was 710 last Saturday,  
and the fewest was 255, Sunday, Aug-  
ust 6. The passenger traffic averaged  
455 persons a day or 115 per trip.  
The total number of passengers for  
the thirteen days was 5,911.

During the same number of days 328  
freight cars were handled, 94 of them  
being "empties." The total tonnage  
was 208,244, averaging 15,919 tons of  
freight a day.

## \$50,000.00 FOR RUSH SPRINGS

Watermelon Shipments from That Place  
Total 500 Carloads This Season  
and Still Shipping

And here's another Rush Springs  
watermelon story by Deputy County  
Clerk J. F. Burrows, right off the reel.  
So far this season Rush Springs has  
shipped out 500 carloads of melons,  
making a record one day last week of  
forty cars. This means a total revenue  
of approximately \$50,000.  
"The schoolboys at Rush Springs  
are going around with more money in  
their pockets than the workmen  
these days," says Mr. Burrows. "They  
are making good wages picking and  
loading melons and are being kept  
busy filling the cars."

### ANOTHER CUT IN CRUDE.

By United Press.  
Dallas, Tex., Aug. 14.—The Mag-  
nolia Oil company today announced a  
ten cent cut in Corsicana light, and  
Henrietta, Electric, Strawn, Thrall and  
Moran crudes to \$1.05. Corsicana  
heavy and Hendon were reduced five  
cents to 45 cents.

### NINNEKAH WOMAN IN HOSPITAL

Mrs. Walter Hill of Ninnekaah un-  
derwent a minor operation in the  
Chickasha hospital this morning and  
is reported to be doing nicely.

### TWO MARRIAGES.

In the court clerk's office at 9  
o'clock Saturday night a wedding of  
Rush Springs young people took place  
amid much jollity which was partici-  
pated in by the contracting parties  
and the witnesses and members of the  
family present. Roy Mullican, aged  
21, of Rush Springs, a brother of  
County Treasurer H. N. Mullican, and  
Miss Jessie Cox, aged 21, of the same  
place, were wedded in the presence  
of Mr. and Mrs. Mullican and with  
Gaston B. Worsham and Miss Mattie  
Hawkins acting as official witnesses.  
An effort to make it a double wedding  
failed, however. They were married  
by Judge Moore.

Jordan Jacks, 21, of Alex, and Miss  
Irene Davis, 19, of Mayaville, were mar-  
ried Saturday afternoon in the county  
court by Judge Davenport.

### WEATHER FORECAST.

For Oklahoma.  
Tonight and Tuesday, un-  
settled.  
Local Temperature.  
During 24 hours ending 8  
a. m. today:  
Maximum, 104; minimum, 77.

## CRUSHED ARMIES IN RETREAT

Austro-German Scattered Armies Head  
for Lemberg Facing Before  
Victorious Russians

### TEUTON ARMIES LOSE ALONG ALL WAR FRONTS

French Follows Up Successes North of  
Somme With Advances to South  
and British Again Victorious

By United Press.

Petrograd, August 14.—The Austro-  
German armies, following the break-  
ing down of their last formidable bar-  
rier to Lemberg by the Russian leg-  
ions, are retreating toward the Gal-  
ician capital on a ninety mile front.

General Bothmer was compelled to  
retire from his strong Stripa river po-  
sitions by the threat of having his ar-  
mies surrounded, and is falling back  
steadily on the Zlota Lipa river, eight-  
teen miles west. But the Russians had  
already crossed the Zlota Lipa river  
north of Stanislaw and the danger of  
a blow to his right flank prevented  
Bothmer from making a stand there.

On the German front east and south-  
east of Lemberg alone the estimated  
loss to the Germans is between 50,000  
and 75,000 men, or half of their effec-  
tive forces there. It is believed this  
will necessitate a continued retreat-  
ment.

The Russian cavalry that captured  
Maurampol, eight miles southeast of  
Lemberg, is believed to be pushing  
its way toward the Hall-Stanislav rail-  
way north of the Dniester river, only  
three miles away.

### Italians Push Austrians.

By United Press.  
Rome, August 14.—General Cadorna's  
forces have pierced another strong  
Austrian line east of the Madloggen  
heights south of Goritz and are contin-  
uing to press the enemy on the Carso  
plateau.

By United Press.

Paris, August 14.—The French fol-  
lowed their successes north of the  
Somme yesterday with an advance  
south of the river last night. Detach-  
ments took several trenches south and  
east of Estrees between the Fay and  
Denisecourt roads.

There was brisk cannonading around  
the newly won French positions at  
Mauripus north of the Somme last  
night.

By United Press.

London, August 14.—The Germans  
gained a temporary footing last night  
in trenches west of Pozieres which  
were captured by the British yester-  
day.

## SANITATION SOUGHT FOR SCHOOLS

Board of Public Education Asks Co-oper-  
ation of City Health Officer for  
Sanitary Surroundings

Dr. E. L. Dawson, city health officer,  
has received the following communica-  
tion from the board of education of  
the city of Chickasha:

Chickasha, Okla., Aug. 10, 1916.  
Dr. E. L. Dawson,  
City Health Physician,  
Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:—

It has been agreed that our city  
schools begin this year on the 18th day  
of September, and the board of edu-  
cation being very desirous of having  
our buildings and grounds in the best  
possible sanitary condition, and that  
the surroundings be made as sanitary  
as possible, their regular meeting  
last Monday evening passed the follow-  
ing resolutions:

"That the city health physician be  
respectfully requested to inspect

## RAILROAD EMPLOYEES ARE PLEASED WITH CONFERENCE

alleys within one block of each of the  
several school buildings, and see that  
all closets are either connected with  
the sewers or that such coverings be  
provided for them as will make them  
most sanitary."

The board is not fully advised as to  
what can be done toward eliminating  
any undesirable conditions that may  
exist within the above districts, but  
wish to suggest that we shall be glad  
to co-operate with you and lend any  
possible assistance toward putting the  
school buildings and play grounds of  
our children in the best sanitary con-  
dition.

Assuring you that we shall appre-  
ciate any efforts you may make toward  
complying with the above request, we are,  
Yours very truly,  
Board of Education  
of Chickasha.

By M. S. Uralle, Clerk.

Dr. Dawson cheerfully gives his co-  
operation in this matter and asks the  
public to do all in its power to the end  
that complete and perfect sanitation  
may result.

## STAY BOND FOR PART OF FINE

Francis Headrick was released from  
the county jail today after having  
served a part of his sentence on the  
charge of bootlegging. His fine and  
costs amounted to \$101.40 and togeth-  
er with a thirty day sentence made a  
total of 152 jail days to be served.  
He had spent the time since June 22  
in jail before he was finally released  
on a stay bond.

## DELLINGER GIVES BAIL

Bert Dellinger, who, with Cap Wea-  
ver was being held on the charge of  
stealing an automobile at Ninnekaah on  
May 8, has been released from jail,  
having furnished \$1,000 bail for his  
appearance before the district court.  
Cap Weaver is still in jail. Dellinger  
says he and Doc Weaver drove the  
stolen car night and day without rest  
from Ninnekaah to El Paso. He does  
not know the name of the woman to  
whom he sold the car.

### FORMER CHICKASHA PASTOR'S WIFE SUSTAINS INJURY

A personal letter from Rev. M. L.  
Butler, former pastor of Epworth  
Methodist church in this city, now  
stationed at Norman, states that Mrs.  
Butler fell and broke her left hip last  
week while visiting her daughter,  
Mrs. Ellison, at Okmulgee. "Her con-  
dition is still serious but we hope to  
bring her home this week," Mr. Butler  
wrote yesterday.

### HERO OF THE WEST FRONT



An official photograph showing one  
of the heroes of the British trenches  
bringing in the wounded from one of  
the trenches. This man, who brought  
in 20 men in the manner in which he  
is seen carrying the one from the  
trenches, was under fire during the  
entire time of his merciful work.

Emerge From Meeting With President  
Smiling Broadly But are Non-Com-  
mittal as to Progress

### REPORT OF AGREEMENT CURRENT DURING MEET.

Santa Fe Official Says Western Railroads  
are Prepared to Operate Trains With  
Skilled Labor During Strike

By United Press.

Washington, August 14.—The first  
step in the efforts of President Wilson  
to prevent the threatened railroad  
strike ended at noon today when rep-  
resentatives of the railroad employees  
left the White House smiling broadly.  
They had been in conference with the  
president for an hour and a half.

"The negotiations are entirely in  
the president's hands," said A. B. Ger-  
retson, spokesman for the employees.  
"I am optimistic," said Warren  
Stone, heading the engineers.

The employees will see President  
Wilson again this afternoon following  
his talk with representatives of rail-  
way managers which is scheduled to  
take place at 2 o'clock.

An apparently well authenticated  
report preceded the conclusion of the  
morning conference to the effect that  
the employees would agree to arbitration  
if the railroads agreed to with-  
draw their counter proposals and that  
the railroads had agreed.

### Prepared for Strike.

By United Press.

Chicago, August 14.—W. B. Storey,  
head of the operating department of  
the Santa Fe railroad, informed the  
United Press today that some of the  
western roads are so well prepared for  
a strike that they have applications  
from a sufficient number of skilled  
workmen to operate their railroads in  
the event of a walkout of the four  
brotherhoods.

### New York's Food Supply.

By United Press.

New York, August 14.—Joseph Har-  
rigan, secretary of the mayor's com-  
mittee on food supply, recommends a  
survey of all sources of food supplies  
which could be commandeered in the  
event of a railroad strike.

Packers estimate that the city has  
eight days meat supply ahead. The  
presence of 500,000 tourists here in-  
creases the problem.

The situation, as it existed after the  
failure of the contending parties to  
get together, was summed up in a  
statement issued by Judge Martin A.  
Knapp, chairman of the federal board  
of mediation, late last night as fol-  
lows:

"After repeated efforts to bring  
about an arbitration of the pending  
controversy between the railroads and  
their employees in train and yard ser-  
vice, the United States board of medi-  
ation and conciliation was today ad-  
vised by the representatives of the  
employees that they would not submit  
matters in dispute to arbitration in  
any form.

"The employees further stated to the  
board that they would not arbitrate  
their own demands, even if the con-  
tingent demands of the railroads were  
withdrawn and also declined to sug-  
gest any other plan or method of a  
peaceful settlement of the controversy.

"They were informed that their de-  
cision would at once be known to Pres-  
ident Wilson and also that the presi-  
dent claimed the right to a personal  
interview with both parties before any  
drastic action was taken. This re-  
quest was, of course, granted and a  
large delegation of employees, with a  
number of railroad managers, will be  
in Washington Monday for a confer-  
ence with the president.

"Early in the negotiations the rail-  
roads had informed the board of me-  
diation and conciliation that they  
would accept arbitration."

President Wilson sent the following  
message to representatives of both em-  
ployers and employees yesterday:

"I have learned with surprise and  
with keen disappointment that an  
agreement concerning the settlement  
of the matters in the controversy be-  
tween the railroads and their em-  
ployees has proved impossible. A gen-  
eral strike of the railways would at  
any time have a most far-reaching and

(Continued on Page Two.)